

Community Festivals Stay Clean and Green

By: Toral Jha and Linda Wainstock

The County's Solid Waste Staff has provided waste reduction assistance to several local community festivals. By adopting such strategies as recycling plastic bottles, using souvenir cups for discounted refills and saving food scraps for compost, many groups have noticed cleaner festival grounds and realized cost savings.

RiverFest, Waukesha

Vendors and entertainers reduced waste behind the scenes by recycling 1,200 pounds of cardboard and all of their kitchen grease. Due to this year's success, festival planners hope to make recycling and waste reduction available to the public during next year's event through drink refills and/or beverage container recycling.

Waukesha County Fair

This year's nearly 106,000 attendees recycled 5,300 soda/water bottles. Made from 100% recycled plastic soda bottles, the 50 bright green NAPCOR recycling bins located throughout the fair grounds provided an attractive and convenient method for fair goers to recycle their beverage containers. Also, volunteers and leaders at the 4-H Forum building composted kitchen food waste for the second year. Over 500 pounds of food waste were collected, giving a two-year total of over 1000 pounds.

The Cherry Cherry Festival, Menomonee Falls

In September, Cherry Cherry Festival, a local arts and crafts event, collected 100 pounds of cardboard and 90 pounds of plastic soda bottles. Event planners used NAPCOR recycling bins, worked with a local hauling company, the event's trash crew, and educated vendors to ensure recycling success.

Many festivals and special events in the metro Milwaukee area, such as Irish Fest and River Splash, have implemented waste reduction practices for many years. To learn more about their successes, call the Southeast Wisconsin Waste Reduction Coalition at 414-272-3334 or visit www.besmart.org to request a copy of Event Planners Guide to Waste Reduction.

OPEN HOUSE AT THE MRF



Waukesha County Materials Recycling Facility
220 S. Prairie Avenue – Waukesha
Saturday, November 10, 2001
10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Tour the facility

Visit education room

Celebrate America Recycles Day

*There are no secrets to success:
Don't waste time looking for them.
Success is the result of perfection,
hard work, learning from failure,
loyalty to those for whom you
work, and persistence.*

General Colin Powell